



Staff photo by E.J. Harris
Hermiston Fire District 1 firefighters respond to a crashed crop duster Thursday in a field south of Hermiston. The pilot of the aircraft was taken to Good Shepherd Medical Center with minor injuries.

Crop duster plane crashes in Hermiston

By JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN
East Oregonian

A pilot suffered minor injuries after crashing his crop duster plane in a field in Hermiston on Thursday a

little before 3 p.m. According to Sgt. Seth Cooney of Oregon State Police, the man was finished with his work for the day and returning to the airport with an empty tank. "For unknown reasons,

witnesses indicate that he inverted and crashed," Cooney said. Cooney said he did not know the identity of the pilot, but he was the only person in the plane. Umatilla County Fire

District personnel said they didn't know whether it was fuel or pesticide that had leaked out of the plane when it crashed, but a hazardous materials truck arrived at the scene about a half hour after the crash.

State looking for volunteer ombudsmen in Umatilla County

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

If a nursing home resident has a complaint about their care, a certified long-term care ombudsman can advocate for change on their behalf.

Umatilla County has 16 long-term care facilities, but no certified ombudsmen for residents to turn to. The state hopes to recruit some soon.

Natascha Cronin, a recruitment specialist for the Oregon Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, said

her office hopes to schedule training sessions in the area this summer. The volunteer position requires about 48 hours of training before certification, and involves about four hours of volunteer work per week once certified.

"It's really a way to give back," she said.

The experience can also provide volunteers with education about long-term care facilities that could come in useful someday when they or a loved one enters a similar living situation.

Cronin said ombuds-

men are assigned to a specific long-term care facility or adult foster home, then set to work getting to know the residents and staff. When a resident has a complaint, the independent ombudsman investigates the source of the problem and advocates for solution.

"It could be something as small as their dinner is always cold or it takes 45 minutes for someone to answer their call light, to as severe as abuse or neglect," she said.

In one example, an ombudsman worked with

a facility on changing their menu after the high-carbohydrate options were contributing to a diabetic resident's erratic blood sugar.

The ombudsman is overseen by a deputy from the Oregon Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman who can mentor them and assist with difficult cases.

Volunteers must be at least 21 years old, have reliable transportation and pass a criminal background check. For more information, call 1-800-522-2602 or visit www.olco.org.

La Grande man charged with filming women in truck stop restroom

By PHIL WRIGHT
East Oregonian

Jared Demarr Hansen of La Grande is heading toward trial in Umatilla County after police reported he shot videos of women in restrooms.

Senior officer Monte Toombs with the Stanfield Police Department arrested Hansen, 34, on Feb. 19 at the Pilot Travel Center, 2115 S. Highway 395, Stanfield. Toombs wrote an affidavit to search and seize Hansen's smartphone after finding he used it to take the videos.

Toombs in the affidavit stated he responded that afternoon to a service call at the truck stop at the Interstate 84 exit. He went to the women's restroom area, where two men at the bathroom door told him a man was inside. One man handed Toombs a phone, saying it belonged to the guy in the bathroom.

Toombs entered the restroom, handcuffed Hansen and asked him why he was in there. According to the affidavit, Hansen asked if they could talk where people could not hear them. Toombs gave Hansen a seat in the back of his police car. There, the affidavit states, Hansen showed the

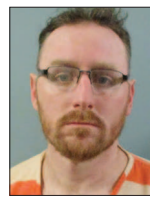
officer the videos he took with his smartphone. One showed Hansen sitting on the toilet with this pants down. The other involved Hansen moving the phone under the stall to capture video of a female using the toilet in the next stall.

The video also shows the moment she notices the phone camera and Hansen turns it.

Toombs found the woman in the video standing outside the restroom. The affidavit also states Hansen admitted he took the video, did not know how old the woman was and said the videos arouse him. Stanfield police also found a video Hansen shot on Feb. 9 of a female in a restroom in La Grande.

The Umatilla County District Attorney's Office charged Hansen with first-degree invasion of privacy. He had a pretrial conference Thursday in Pendleton, where Circuit Judge Christopher Brauer set a trial readiness hearing for April 1 and trial for April 15. The state also filed motions to bring the victim and witnesses, who all live in Washington, to testify at trial.

Hansen remains in the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, in lieu of \$50,000 bail.



Hansen

Hermiston High announces changes to administration

HERMISTON — Hermiston High School will have some changes to its administration next year. Starting in July, assistant principal Scott Depew will move to the district office, and current dean of students Blaine Braithwaite will take his place.

Depew will start a new role as the director of secondary instruction, overseeing instructional programs and services for sixth through 12th grades. Superintendent Tricia Mooney said historically, assistant superintendent Bryn Browning has overseen curriculum and instruction for all grades, but Depew's role will allow her to focus on kindergarten through fifth grade curriculum.

Mooney said while

Depew's position is a new one for the district, they are not adding an administrator position to their budget. An administrative position was vacated at the beginning of the 2018-19 school year when Operations Director Brad Wayland abruptly resigned his position, and Mooney said with Depew's new role, the number of administrators will stay the same.

Braithwaite will step into the assistant principalship after one year in Hermiston. Previously, he spent 21 years teaching in the Stanfield School District.

Depew has been an assistant principal in Hermiston since 2015. Hermiston High School is now looking to fill the dean of students position.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

PENDLETON MASTERS SWIM CLUB, 5-6 p.m., Roundup Athletic Club pool, 1415 Southgate, Pendleton. \$5 per session coaching fee; non-RAC members pay \$8 pool fee per session. (Tania Wildbill 541-310-9102)

PENDLETON EAGLES LADIES AUXILIARY KITCHEN

6-8 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Members and guests welcome. (541-278-2828)

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

PENDLETON EAGLES STEAK AND LIVE MUSIC, 6-11:59 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Dinner from 6-8 p.m., music from 8 p.m. to midnight. Members and guests welcome. (541-278-2828)

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

PENDLETON EAGLES BREAKFAST, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Pendleton Eagles Lodge, 428 S. Main St., Pendleton. Open to members and guests. (541-278-2828)

MONDAY, APRIL 1

BOARDMAN QUILT GROUP, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Boardman Senior Center, 100 Tatone St., Boardman. Quilt construction, quilting updates, education, history and friendship. Free. (Kathy Hyder 541-571-7009)
IRRIGON MOOSE LODGE TACOS AND BINGO, 6-9 p.m., Irrigon Moose Lodge, 220 N.E. Third St., Irrigon. Tacos from 6-9 p.m., bingo from

6:30-9 p.m. Open to members and guests. (541-922-1802)

ATHENA MAINSTREET ASSOCIATION, 6 p.m., association office, 431 E. Main St., Athena. Volunteers welcome. (April Vorhauer-Flatt 541-969-4811)

GREATER HERMISTON AREA TEA PARTY, 7 p.m., Stafford Hansell Government Center, 915 S.E. Columbia Drive, Hermiston.

HEPPNER GARDEN CLUB, 7 p.m., St. Patrick's Senior Center, 190 N. Main St., Heppner.

PENDLETON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, 7 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. (Michael Califf 541-276-8132)

INLAND NORTHWEST MUSICIANS CHORALE REHEARSAL, 7-9 p.m., Harris Jr. Academy gymnasium, 3121 S.W. Hailey Ave., Pendleton. No tryouts; all welcome. No rehearsals June-July-August or Christmas-New Year. (Salli Ketchersid 541-289-4696)

AMERICAN LEGION POST 37, 7:30 p.m., Hermiston VFW, 45 W. Cherry Ave., Hermiston. Members, transfers and interested veterans welcome. (Bob Daniel 541-571-5882)

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

ECHO QUARTERBACK CLUB, 6 a.m., Echo Community School home ec room, 610 Gerone St., Echo. (541-376-8214)

PENDLETON TOASTMASTERS NO. 154, 6:30 a.m., Pendleton City Hall community

room, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton.

GREENFIELD GRANGE PINOCHLE, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Greenfield Grange 579, 209 N.W. First St., Boardman. (541-481-7397)

BIBLE STUDY, 10 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 352 S.E. Second St., Pendleton. (Rev. Jim Pierce 541-276-2616)

"THE LIFE MODEL: LIVING FROM THE HEART JESUS GAVE YOU" BOOK STUDY GROUP, 1-2:30 p.m., Bowman Building, 17 S.W. Frazer Ave., Pendleton. (Pat 541-276-6671)

BLUE MOUNTAIN GENERAL SOCIETY, 1 p.m., Pendleton City Hall community room, 501 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton. Bring a laptop. New members welcome. (Karen Licurse 541-276-0923)

WOMEN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB OF MILTON-FREEWATER, 2 p.m., Milton-Freewater Community Building, 109 S.E. Fifth Ave., Milton-Freewater. (Kathy Klay 541-861-2266)

STUDYING THE MIRACLES OF JESUS, 4-6 p.m., Good Samaritan Ministries, 319 W. Locust Ave., Hermiston. (541-564-1041)

WILLOW CREEK SYMPHONY REHEARSAL, 6-7:30 p.m., Armand Larive Jr. High School, 1497 S.W. Ninth St., Hermiston. Preparatory orchestra for

all ages. Does not rehearse June-July-August or during Christmas-New Year holidays. (Salli Ketchersid 541-289-4696)

AWANA, 6:30-8 p.m., Pendleton Baptist Church, 3202 S.W. Nye Ave., Pendleton. For children age 3 through sixth grade. (541-276-7590)

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB, 6:30 p.m., Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S Main St, Pendleton.

ODD FELLOWS EUREKA LODGE NO. 32, 7 p.m., IOOF Hall, 19 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton. (Gladys Biggerstaff 541-377-0068)

KBLU-FM COMMUNITY RADIO, 7 p.m., Bowman Building Suite 352, 17 S.W. Frazer Ave., Pendleton. Pendleton-area community radio station. Public welcome. (Gary or Vickie 541-566-0131 or 541-566-2744)

AMERICAN LEGION POST 24, 7 p.m., American Legion Hall, 424 S.E. Eighth Ave., Milton-Freewater. All veterans welcome. (Barney 509-876-6067)

OPEN HOUSES

Clark Jennings is hosting two open houses!
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